



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 149

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2003

No. 111

## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, Your people lived in security from all their enemies for a long time when Joshua summoned all the people, their elders, heads of families, their judges, and representatives together, and he said, "You have seen for yourselves all that the Lord our God has done for you. It was the Lord who fought for you in time of war. It was the Lord who granted you the gift of peace. Be resolute, therefore: Observe and perform everything written in the book of the Law without swerving to right or left."

May the words of Joshua pierce the hearts of all in Congress and all Americans today. Having seen You, Lord, guiding our history in the past, help us to be resolute today. In the formulation of law and national policy, let Members of the House hear Your voice. In their adherence to the law, let all citizens be Your people of promise and bring Your kingdom to reality. Free Your people from labels or postures that dictate right or left; rather, may they be so in tune to Your living word and Your dynamic spirit that they may be the fulfillment of Your law, now and forever. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Montana (Mr. REHBERG) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. REHBERG led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 285. An act to authorize the integration and consolidation of alcohol and substance abuse programs and services provided by Indian tribal governments, and for other purposes.

S. 650. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to authorize the Food and Drug Administration to require certain research into drugs used in pediatric patients.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2761 of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and upon the recommendation of the Minority Leader, appoints the Honorable PAUL SARBANES of Maryland as a delegate of the Senate Delegation to the British-American Interparliamentary Group conference during the One Hundred Eighth Congress.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 101-549, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, appoints Dr. Bernard Coldstein, of Pennsylvania, to the Board of Directors of the Mickey Leland National Urban Air Toxics Research Center, vice M.M. Key.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain 5 1-minutes on each side.

### IMPORTATION OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS BAD FOR AMERICA

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today the House will be considering legislation that would allow for the importation of prescription drugs from foreign lands, H.R. 2427. The supporters of this bill will tell us that this legislation will give millions of Americans access to safe, cheap drugs from foreign countries. I believe them to be wrong. Instead, this bill will only serve to undercut important safety protections and place foreign price controls on American businesses.

We are all concerned about the cost of prescription drugs, but this bill is not the way to go about holding down prices.

This bill is not about free trade. In other industries, we do not permit the imposition of foreign price controls on American businesses, and we should not in this case, either.

This bill is not about safe drugs. In Operation Safeguard, the U.S. Customs agency determined that 80 to 90 percent of pharmaceuticals that enter the United States via mail violate FDA and DEA requirements.

We all want cheaper drugs, but not at any cost. But that is the question the supporters of this bill put to this body: At what price we are willing to make sure cheap drugs are available to our constituents? I do not think that price should be their safety.

Let us work on constructive solutions to bring down the cost of health care in this country, not promote ideas that will do more harm than good.

### SCHOOL READINESS ACT ADVERSELY AFFECTS MINORITIES

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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